Docket No. GOUDREAU Client Reference CG/11168.115

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Tamara Venegas

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Jerry PELLETIER and Manjula DAS

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

Filing Date:

Herewith

For:

OLIGONUCLEOTIDE PRIMERS THAT

DESTABILIZE NON-SPECIFIC DUPLEX FORMATION AND USES

THEREOF

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

#### <u>AMENDMENTS</u>

### In the Claims:

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said oligonuclotide is a homopolymer comprising at least one nucleotide modification.

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- (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein an enzyme capable of 13. RNA-dependent DNA polymeriztion is used for said first strand synthesis.
- (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said oligonucleotide is a 19. homopolymer.

# **REMARKS**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made ot the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **GOUDREAU**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

April 6, 2001

By:

Régistration No. 32,430

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